Statement

The routewise details of speed potential and length of track on broad gauge are as under:

Route	Speed potential	Length of track (km)
A	Speed upto 160 km/hour.	13800
B	Speed upto 160 km/hour.	15113
C	Suburban sections of Mumbai and Kolkata.	1228
D Spl.	Sections where the traffic density is very high or likely to grow substantially in future and sanctioned speed is 100 km./hr.	4589
D	Sections where the sanctioned speed is 100 km./hr. at present.	11647
E Spl.	Sections where the traffic density is very high or likely to grow substantially in future and sanctioned speed is less than 100 km./hr.	2076
E	Sections and branch lines with the present sanctioned speed, less than 100 km./hr.	13150

Tourism and Transport Facilities at Railway Stations

2862. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways propose to improve tourism and transport facilities at railway stations;

(b) if so, what are the strategies finalised;

(c) whether private participation is proposed to be promoted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The strategies to promote tourism include introduction of luxury tourists trains, heritage trains, revitalising hill railways, steam trains on selected sections, promoting chartered specials and setting up of budget hotels. In addition Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation has been set up to expand into new areas of tourism and also develop value added tourism packages in collaboration with private participation.

Improvement in transport facilities at a station are determined on the basis of traffic requirements. Additional works where-ever required are taken up subject to availability of resources and as per the priority of the works.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Private participation in tourism and transport facilities are envisaged through partnership with State Tourism Corporations, leading tour operators and other service providers.

Work-charged gazetted posts in Railways

2863. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Men's Unions have pointed out that a large number of gazetted posts in the Railways are work-charged;

(b) whether it is a fact that such posts are created at will; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to set right the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. A representation has been received.

(b) No, Sir, such posts are created against specific provision made in the sanctioned estimates based on yardsticks approved by Board